

# PRESS RELEASE

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## DEPUTY MAYOR OLGEN WILLIAMS VISITS THE SIKH TEMPLE

INDIANAPOLIS – On Sunday, December 6<sup>th</sup> Deputy Mayor for Neighborhoods, Olgen Williams, visited the Sikh Satsang Temple on Indianapolis' Southeast side. Deputy Mayor Williams was invited to speak at the Sikh Temple by longtime Indianapolis resident K.P. Singh to discuss issues facing the Sikh community in Indianapolis.

Deputy Mayor Williams' visit to the Sikh Satsang Temple is part of an ongoing effort by the Sikh community to reach out to local leadership in an effort to create awareness and promote openness between the Sikh community and the City of Indianapolis. In October, Mayor Ballard visited the temple.

The Deputy Mayor's remarks focused on the importance of building bridges with the Sikh community and encouraged all Indianapolis residents to be accepting of the Sikh traditions.

"The Sikh Temple visit was a great experience for me," said Deputy Mayor Olgen Williams. "The Sikh community is a vital part of Indianapolis' growing ethnic base and it was a pleasure for me to visit their place of worship."

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The Sikh Satsang of Indianapolis was built in 1999. The Gurdwara, or Sikh temple, was established to accommodate the increasing Sikh community in Indianapolis. In recent years, Indianapolis has become a popular location for Sikhs to live and work. The congregation started with roughly 50 families, and today serves over 1,000 active members.

"The recent visit of the Deputy Mayor to the Sikh Temple in Indianapolis is a welcome affirmation that the City of Indianapolis is deeply committed to celebrating the ethnic, cultural, and faith diversity in our midst," said K.P. Singh. "We applaud the initiatives and kindness of the Honorable Mayor Greg Ballard, and Deputy Mayor Olgen Williams during their recent visits to The Sikh Temple. We are certain that these outreach efforts offer unimagined promise for us as a Nation and as a people."

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